

**State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Coast Region**

RESOLUTION NO. R3-2012-0014

City of Santa Barbara MacKenzie Park Commendation

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (hereafter “Water Board”), finds that:

1. The Water Board’s vision for the Central Coast is “Healthy Watersheds,” and the Board supports watershed protection efforts. Healthy Watersheds function well ecologically and are sustainable. Urban areas can sustain these characteristics through measures that ensure the dynamics that provide healthy functions are protected. For example, low impact development (LID) provides watershed protection from hydromodification that adversely affects recharge areas or creeks’ bed or bank stability.
2. Stormwater and urban runoff from impervious surfaces are major sources of creek and ocean water pollution. Runoff from parking lots often contains hydrocarbons, fine sediments, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, metals, nutrients, and other pollutants that are toxic to aquatic organisms and potentially harmful to human health. To address this problem, land uses can reduce the amount of impermeable surfaces and allow stormwater runoff to infiltrate into soil by mimicking pre-development conditions. By retrofitting existing infrastructure using LID designs, stormwater is allowed to soak into the soil. By requiring LID projects throughout the City of Santa Barbara, the amount of pollutants being carried directly into storm drains, creeks, estuaries, and ocean will be reduced, improving water quality.
3. The City of Santa Barbara has modeled good LID practices by installing permeable pavers on its own property in the MacKenzie Park Parking lot at State Street and Las Positas Road, and the project serves as an example for the rest of the Central Coast Region. The design demonstrates a retrofit that complies with the City’s Storm Water Management Program requirement to retain and treat the volume of water generated from a one inch, 24 hour storm event. The City built the project between August and October, 2011.

THEREFORE, the Water Board hereby resolves that:

The City of Santa Barbara is commended for using its own property at MacKenzie Park as an example for watershed protection, by retrofitting the parking lot using low impact development techniques to maximize infiltration and minimize runoff.

I, Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on February 2, 2012.

Executive Officer